through employment and income generating programmes and assets-building for the poor. The Government has been implementing various programmes/schemes through out the country including Uttaranchal for betterment of the life of the people in general, and of those living below the poverty line, in particular.

Delay in awarding contracts by NHAI

1731. SHRl YASHWANT SINHA:
SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Highways Authority of india has succeeded in awarding only 35 per cent of the contracts for the North-South, East-West (Corridor NHDP-ll);

(b) the reasons for delay in awarding contracts; and

(c) whether under the PPP framework the Planning Commission Committee on infrastructure had cleared a new Model Concession Agreement about a year ago but the Model Concession Agreement has yet to get agreement from other Ministries including his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-Il consists of North-South and East-West corridors as well as other projects. Contracts of about 82.80% length of North-South and East-West Corridors and 93.39% of other projects pertaining to NHDP Phase-ll have been awarded.

(c) Anew Model Concession Agreement (MCA) was evolved by an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) comprising of representatives from concerned Ministries *i.e.* Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, Ministry of Finance, Planning Commission and Ministry of Law. This MCA has been approved by the Committee on Infrastructure.

Directorate of read safety

1732. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state: